VOCABULARY EXERCISES LIST

**TOP TEN LIST**

**Using at least 10 of the vocabulary words from your list, write a “TOP TEN” list for a topic of your choice. Show you know the meaning of the words in each sentence.**

**TOP TEN EXCUSES FOR NOT DOING HOMEWORK**

10. Not to be redundant, but my dog ate it.

9. I was busy capturing the elusive members of Al-Queda and keeping my sagacious teachers safe from harm.

8. I’m a gregarious sort of person, so I had to have an incessant 10 minute conversation with everyone at the bus stop yesterday.

7. I don’t like my work scrutinized, and I know if I turn in work they might actually read it and grade it.

6. An audacious bully accosted me on the way to school and stole it.

And so on…

Other examples of topics:

Top 10 Things To Do List According to President Bush

Top 10 Ways to Breakup with Your Boyfriend

Top 10 Reasons to Vote Democratic/Republic/Green/Independent, etc.

Top 10 Reasons I Hate Going to New York

Top 10 Reasons Beyonce Should Break Up with Jay-Z

Top 10 Reasons Not to Eat at McDonald’s

Top 10 Ways to Become Famous According to J. Lo.

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VOCABULARY ASSESSMENT: HELP WANTED AD

**DIRECTIONS:** Write a “help wanted” ad using at least 10 vocabulary words from the list on the board. Choose a job or position you would like to fill, and describe the job and the qualities you are looking for. You must use the words correctly and show you know the meaning. (Do not write: “I do not want someone malicious,” for example. This does not demonstrate you know the meaning of “malicious.” Instead, write “You must not be malicious because respect is required for this job.”)

**Clearly highlight or underline the words. You will receive two points for each word. One for using it correctly and one for showing you know the meaning. This will count as a summative assessment.**

# POSITION: Shopping Buddy

I'm looking for someone who knows what style is all about. Someone who knows something about today's fashion. I'm an **arduous** person who needs an **expedient** person who will be able to endure 8-10 hours a week of shopping. The position includes being **peripatetic** around the mall, from store to store. You will have to **delve** through all the stores for prices and quality. It doesn't matter if you don't have a **plethora** of money to spend, as long as you are not **penurious**. In order not to cause **ennui**, you will have to learn to be a **raconteur**. You can tell me about your past experiences in a mall, and all the places you went in your trendy clothes. If you are a person who, at the sight of the most amazing pair of shoes at 70% off price, and you have a **paroxysm** and can't stand to be **reticent** then you are the most likely to get the job. We will have a **catharsis** at least once a week. Don't worry, I will be next to you and **mitigate** any problems you have with rude salespeople. Of course you are going to have to prove yourself by doing a 30-minute shopping spree with me. After I have interviewed all the candidates I will decide who is the best one. Most people consider me **blithe** so this will not be so hard.

POSITION: Sister Guard  
I am looking for an **assiduous** sister guard. I abhor my sister **insouciantly** delving into my personal belongings and borrowing them without permission. My sister is of **aesthetic** tastes, do not let her **eclectic** talents dazzle or distract you. This will be an **arduous** task. Be sure you can guard my sister’s actions carefully to ensure that any situation will be **mitigated.** If you're usually **reticent,** I suggest you **transcend** this behavior in order to fulfill my request. Otherwise, you need not apply. Failure to carry out this job **impeccably** will result in **penury** towards your pay.

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VOCABULARY ASSESSMENT:

CELEBRITY WHO AM I?

**DIRECTIONS:** Write a “who am I?” paragraph using at least 15 vocabulary words from the list on the board. Choose a celebrity from history, entertainment, sports, or anything else, and provide clues to who this person is. You must use the words correctly and show you know the meaning. (Do not write: “I am apathetic about money,” for example. This does not demonstrate you know the meaning of “apathetic.” Instead, write “I am apathetic about money because I can always make more each day.”) See the back for some excellent student examples.

**Clearly highlight or underline the words. You will receive two points for each word. One for using it correctly and one for showing you know the meaning. This will count as a summative assessment.**

WHO AM I?

A lot of people call me a diva, but I don’t pay attention to that **negative** talk. I am a talented **soloist** singer, and while I have many **archrivals** such as Alicia Keyes, and Christina Aguilera, I am truly the best. On my albums, my songs **contemplate** topics such as love, breakups, and finding yourself. In fact, one of my most famous songs is a **soliloquy** about love called, *I Stay in Love*. I am not **apathetic** about love, and just got married to a younger star named Nick who has his own show. Many people consider my clothes too **graphic*,*** but I do cover myself in furs and big sunglasses. Tons of people follow me around, so I never have a moment of **solitude** and I am always being handed **graphite** to sign my CDs.

WHO AM I?

I died too early, and many people believe I gave a **solar** light to the country during my time. I was a Democrat, and the opposite of an **archconservative** when it came to my views about government. I was killed by an **archenemy**, but even today no one really knows what happened or who shot the gun. After my death, my wife had a period of **solitude** and then went on to marry another man. My most famous **soliloquy** had the quotation, “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.” I am considered an **archetype** of an honest politician, and many people were filled with **pathos** when I died. If I had **telepathy**, I would make the people of today realize that we need to spend more money on education and healthcare. It doesn’t take an **oculist** to see that.

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YOUR MOVIE!

**DIRECTIONS:** Write a description of a movie plot that you would choose to create. Your movie can be horror, romance, comedy, drama, science fiction, or anything you prefer. In your description, tell us the name of the movie, what happens, and a little about the characters and their situation. Use at least 10 words from your list, and show you know the meaning of the words. (Do not write: “He was *malicious*,” for example. This does not demonstrate you know the meaning of “malicious.” Instead, write “He was *malicious* and would not stop at hurting others to get his way.”) See below for some excellent student examples.

**Clearly highlight or underline the words. You will receive two points for each word. One for using it correctly and one for showing you know the meaning. This will count as a summative assessment.**

Do you have ***sympathy*** for girls who get themselves hooked on ***negligent*** guys? If so, you’ll love the new film, ***“Solitary*** No More,” a film about a girl who is so ***intent*** on finding a boyfriend, and not being lonely, she chooses any guy who ***proffers*** her attention. Her name is Amethyst, and her ***archrival*** is a girl named Ciara who will ***negate*** anyone’s friendship if it helps her get ahead on the social ladder. When Amethyst starts talking to Ciara’s ex-boyfriend Sean, Ciara has no ***empathy*** for either of them, and that’s when the trouble and  ***pathos*** begins. Sean is selfish, and couldn’t be beneficent if he tried. Just wait until you find out the ***dubious*** things she goes through just to feel loved.

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VOCABULARY EXERCISE:

PERSONAL RULES

**DIRECTIONS:** Using at least 10 words below, write a list of your rules for a particular area or subject. Be creative, and make sure your sentences demonstrate the meaning of the word. (Do not write: “You need to be malicious,” for example. This does not demonstrate you know the meaning of “malicious.”) See below for some excellent student examples.

**Clearly highlight or underline the words. You will receive two points for each word. One for using it correctly and one for showing you know the meaning. This will count as a summative assessment.**

LAURA’S RULES FOR BEING A GOOD FRIEND

1. You must never be loquacious around me because I don’t like listening to a lot of talking.
2. You must not have an aversion to sports because I love basketball, football, and soccer.
3. You must not have a narcissistic boyfriend or girlfriend who is always jealous of your spending time with friends like me.
4. You must treat your parents with reverence and not prevaricate when we come home late from a party.

LEE’S RULES FOR PLAYING CARDS

1. Know how to be mendacious, since lying is the best way to win at poker.
2. Don’t be afraid to bet extravagantly, since no one likes to play with stingy people.
3. Bring food that is tasty, not insipid, since we will need lots of snacks to keep us going.

MARTA’S RULES FOR BEING A GOOD BOYFRIEND

KEI’S RULES FOR GETTING INTO COLLEGE

LARA’S RULES FOR TAKING CARE OF MY DOG

STEVEN’S RULES FOR BEING A CLASS CLOWN

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**VOCABULARY ASSESSMENT:**

**HOLIDAY SHOPPING LIST**

Using at least **10** words from your vocabulary lists, write a holiday gift list of things you would buy for people, and why. Make it creative. Remember to underline the words. You may use more than one word in a list item.

Here is an example:

**HOLIDAY SHOPPING LIST:**

1. A radar detector for my dad who travels at **egregious** speeds and will not remain **stagnant** for more than 1 second at a stop sign.
2. A free certificate to an assertiveness training course for my **reticent** sister who never sticks up for herself when we argue at home.
3. An electronic buzzer for George Bush that will zap him anytime he says something **daft** or **sanctimonious** during one of his speeches.
4. A massage for my brother who can be **truculent** and doesn’t know how to calm down.

VOCABULARY ASSESSMENT

Advice Columnist

Write a letter asking for advice for a problem or issue. Your letter should include clearly explain a conflict and ask for help about what to do. Use at least 15 vocabulary words in your letter. You may include a response letter if you wish, or you may simply write the letter asking for advice. Show you know the meaning of the words by using them in context. You may change the form of a word to fit your sentence. Your letter should be school-appropriate!

EXAMPLE:

Dear Advice Columnist,

I am 17 years old and have had a serious boyfriend for the past two years. Although it seems like it’s been an ***epoch*** sometimes, our relationship is strong and full of mutual respect. In fact, sometimes my boyfriend is ***obsequious*** with me and agrees to do whatever I want to do. He’s a nice guy, but not the most ***communicative*** one out there, and sometimes I don’t know what he really feels. Is he just ***concurring*** with me to be nice, or is he too ***reticent*** and ***diffident*** to speak up? He thinks he is being ***beneficent*** and supportive, but sometimes his agreeing with everything makes him seem ***apathetic***, like he just doesn’t care or have any opinions at all. I’ve tried talking to him about this, but he just insists that he is fine with whatever we do, and tells me I’m being ***redundant,*** and who wants to hear the same thing over and over again?

When we actually end up doing what I want to do, he sometimes complains that he isn’t having fun or is ***ambivalent*** about who we’re hanging out with. I tell him that I would love to do something he suggests, but then he tells me I’m being ***petulant*** and nagging him. I feel like I can’t win! I’m beginning to feel ***exasperated*** enough to call it off, although I really love him and want the relationship to ***flourish***. What should I do?